GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2198
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010
SATELLITE PHONE
Kataria Shri Lal Chand

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is manufacturing a satellite vehicle for the use of satellite phones;

(b) if so, the time by which its manufacturing is likely to be started;

(c) whether the satellite phones in India are being used with the help of the satellites of other countries;

(d) If so, the details thereof including the names of the countries; and

(e) the time from which the country is getting the assistance of other countries and the annual expenditure incurred thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS, MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS , MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Satellite phone service provided by INMARSAT satellite of UK is being used in India for a long time in accordance with the rules and regulations of the country's licensing department namely, Department of Telecommunications. Satellite from any other country has so far not been permitted to provide phone service in India.

(e) INMARSAT satellite phone service has been in use in the country for a long time. The user/company/ organisation has been procuring the satellite telephones and operating them at their own cost.